the author classifies as "derived albumins"), it is probable that they are not proteins at all, but substances having very much lower molecular weights and simpler chemical structure; and, inasmuch as they are derived, chiefly by hydrolytic cleavage, from proteids, they may very properly be classified for the present as protein-derivatives, or proteid-cleavage-products.

On the whole, however, the book is an excellent one, being, in the opinion of the reviewer, one of the most useful text-books on the subject in English, and well suited for the use of American medical students.

JOHN C. CARDWELL.

THE THYROID AND PARATHYROID GLANDS. By HUBERT RICHARDSON, M.D., Demonstrator of Physiological Chemistry, University of Maryland; late Pathologist to the Mt. Hope Retreat; Pathologist to the Maryland Home for the Feeble-Minded.

"The thyroid gland has proved to be of the greatest importance as a regulator of the general metabolism, interference with its function producing cretinism, infantilism, myxœdema, and Basedow's disease."

These facts have been proven by physiological experiments carried out by many investigators, whose results have been hidden away in the vast mass of literature of the past decade, and are not available to the average physician whose hours are so fully occupied with practical work that he has none to devote to the research necessary to their study. Dr. Richardson has gone carefully through the medical literature of the different languages and brought to light these various experiments, and has recorded them in this volume in addition to his own personal observations and research.

In the chapter treating of the physiology of the gland he has detailed the experiments of Edmunds, Moussu, v. Eiselberg, and others on the removal of the thyroid and parathyroid, and the effect of thyroid feeding, showing the relation of the thyroid and parathyroid in goitre, cretinism, myxœdema, and Basedow's disease. In the course of these experiments the author's suggestion that "it seems possible that one of the reasons why the human infant is so difficult to raise on artificial food is the absence of the necessary amount of thyroid secretion in the artificial food, as the calf is born with a functionating thyroid, cow's milk probably does not contain the amount of thyroid secretion necessary for the development of the infant," is an observation that deserves careful consideration, and should be borne in mind in the feeding of children with whom artificial foods disagree.

Edmunds's experiments are considered at length and are summarized. These experiments show that the cervical sympathetic is not the main factor in producing protrusion of the eyeball in exophthalmic goitre. This would seem to indicate that the operation on the cervical sympathetic for exophthalmos is not based on good physiological and anatomical reasons; apparently this is true, as the operation has not accomplished the desired results.

In addition to diseases of the thyroid gland itself, the complication of the thyroid in infectious disease is considered. The surgery of the thyroid is presented in very able manner. Especial stress is laid on the importance of leaving part of the thyroid gland and the parathyroids to obviate some of the after complication, especially those of myxœdema and tetanic convulsions. A chapter is devoted to the possibilities of thyroid feeding and the diseases in which it may prove useful.

A few errors have been overlooked, a marked one occurs in the chapter on the anatomy of the glands. The reader will find that the author, in speaking of the branchial arches and clefts, uses the word *bronchial* instead of *branchial.*

Dr. Richardson has in this valuable volume brought the known facts in reference to these glands and their diseases up to date, and put them in a working form for the busy physician that will be greatly appreciated by the profession.

A. R. ALLEN.